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Code Blue

I'm running, running the way we all run toward death, sprinting through swarms of *Pseudomonas* and *Serratia*, the din of the soaps, a demented man's scream.

And I run the code serene as a monarch, issue edicts and commands, infusions, boluses, electric thumps until I drop the paddles, bent, breathless.

When I raise my eyes, the body on the bed, dusky blue, spreads limp as twilight on the wintry hills outside, commuter traffic on the street choked motionless, the silent signal light beating orange, red, green.

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